

GREATER NEW YORK AND TAXATION.

New York Will Lose 21 Points,
Brooklyn Will Gain 79
Points on City Taxes.

But the Advantage in Reduction
of Unjust State Taxation Will
Be Great for Both.

Exactly How the Country Counties Now
Milk New York and How It
Can Be Stopped.

THE REAL SIZE OF THE METROPOLIS

An Area in This Vicinity as Large as London's
Would Give Us a Population
Only 200,000 Less Than That of
the World's Greatest City.

Greater New York will work changes which few citizens dream of. One section of the bill, which has passed both houses of the Legislature, and is now awaiting the approval of the Mayors of New York, Brooklyn and Long Island City, before it goes to Governor Morton for his signature, provides for a "uniform rate of taxation throughout the whole territory." This can only be arranged by striking something near to an average of the tax rates now existing in the different sections involved. On the face of it New York (the present city) would be a heavy loser by this transaction. Careful figures show that a "uniform rate of taxation throughout the territory involved" would mean a decrease of not less than 79 points in the rate in Brooklyn, and an increase of about 21 points in the tax rate in what is at present the city of New York.

But, while New York would thus lose heavily in helping her neighbor, she will gain more than enough to make up by freeing herself from the chains of robbery and extortion in which the country districts have bound her, as will be found further on. The figures used on this page are taken principally from official records.

Here are the valuations of property, the tax rates and the total taxations of the localities affected, from the State Comptroller's report for 1895. The two sets of figures for New York County show, besides the regular tax, the tax collected from corporations subject to local tax only:

PRESENT TAXATION.

	Valuation.	Rate.	Tot'l Taxes.
N. Y. County.....	\$1,057,928,927	1.91	\$20,108,761
N. Y. County.....	65,828,303	1.7275	1,137,815

Average.....	1.8189		
Kings County.....	\$25,165,720	2.97	\$7,488,214
Richmond Co.....	26,674,867	1.71	4,562,246
L. I. City.....	10,896,632	4.10	446,754
Queens County (part of).....	26,318,512	1.38	\$3,623,165
Totals.....	\$2,618,845,461		\$35,510,200

A careful average will show that had consolidation been in force in 1895 and the cost of the government of Greater New York been the same as under the government now in force, viz., \$55,570,200, on an assessment of \$2,618,845,461 the tax rate would have been 2.134 per centum. Each \$1,000 worth of taxable property (in the whole district) would have had to pay \$21.34.

The tax rate in Long Island City is the highest on the list. Forty-one dollars must be paid on each \$1,000 worth of property. The taxpayers of Long Island City paid more than twice as much per thousand dollars as the citizens of New York. Had the Board of Aldermen of New York taken 2.97, the average rate levied on the total property in Brooklyn, the revenue to this city on a total valuation of \$2,016,047,962 would have been \$59,903,345, or nearly four millions more than was raised in the entire territory of Greater New York.

Richmond County's tax rate for 1895 was but 1.71, about 20 points lower than New York's, and 120 lower in Kings County's. The Staten Island therefore pays only \$1.71 on each \$100 worth of property, while the Brooklyn is assessed \$2.97 on the same \$100.

The rest of the territory included within the boundaries of Greater New York—Newtown, Jamaica and Flushing and part of Hempstead—has a very low tax rate.

The Power of Representation.
But New York's loss in increased municipal taxation would be more than offset by her gain on State taxation. From the territory to be consolidated there go at present 21 Senators and 36% Assemblymen. The total number of Senators in the State is fifty and the total number of Assemblymen is 150. Thus, if all the legislators sent by the Greater New York district are combined by common interest, their power would be great enough to protect the city, if not control legislation.

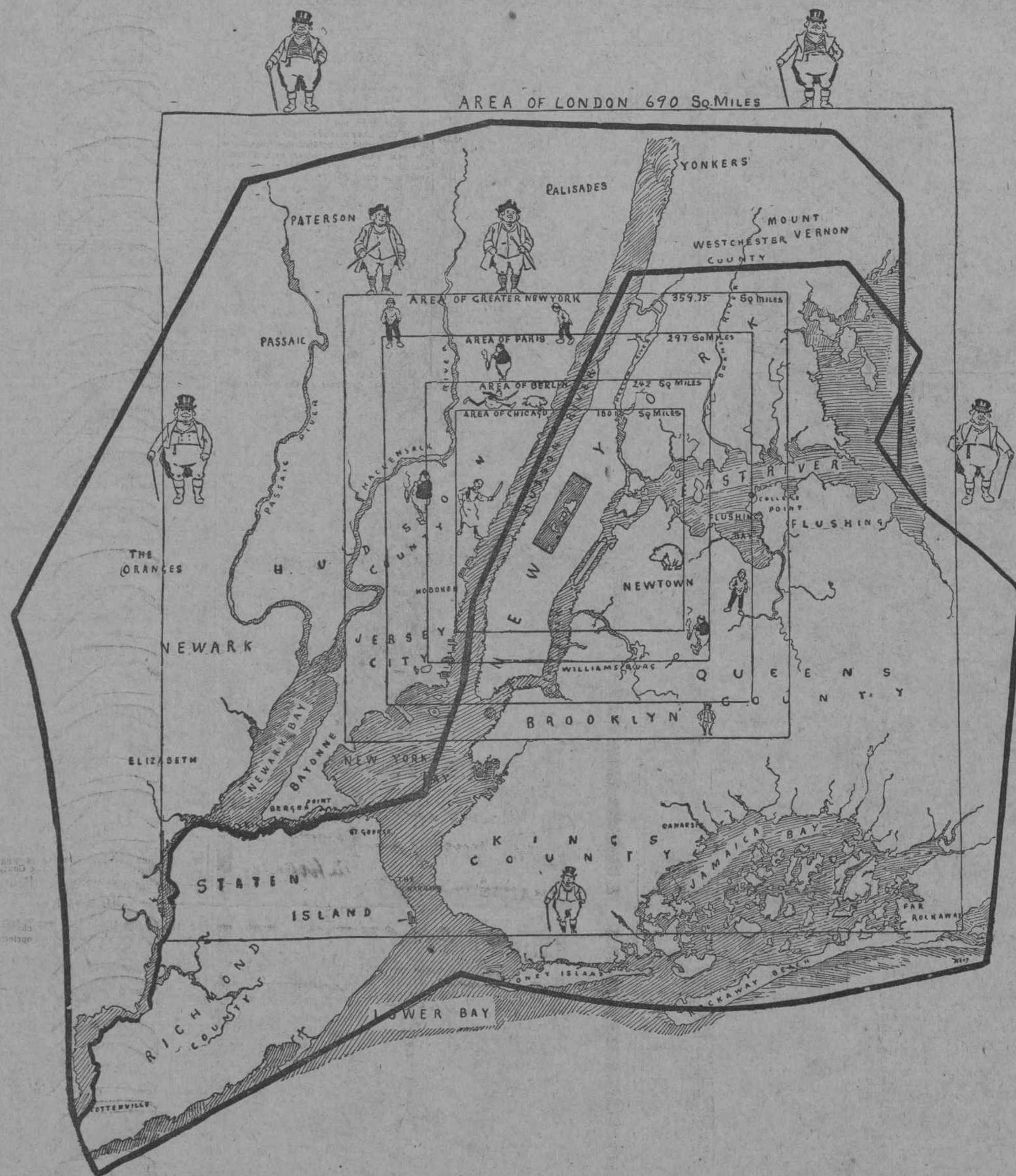
They would be strong enough to stop the villainous system of extortion from which New York has for years suffered at the hands of the country districts. To what great lengths this milking has been carried few New Yorkers know.

The aggregate assessed valuation of the whole sixty counties of the State for 1895, according to the report of the State Comptroller, just issued, is \$4,262,086,167. The assessed valuation of the property contained in the territory of Greater New York, according to the same report, is \$2,618,845,461, or 61.02 per cent of the whole amount of property existing in the State subject to taxation. That is, after consolidation the metropolis will pay a decimal over 61 per cent of the cost of the State government.

The bitter speeches delivered by many country members against the Consolidation act were caused by the fear that the future great city would be strong enough to prevent the rural member from getting in his little steals in the shape of bills providing for the appropriation of State money for purely local purposes.

An examination of the session laws and a compilation of figures taken from the reports of the State Comptroller and Superintendent of Education reveal the fact that there were twenty-three counties of this State in 1895 which not only did not contribute anything toward the support of the State government, but which actually received in the apportionment of school moneys enough to pay their quota of the tax for school and general State purposes, and a large sum besides.

The twenty-three counties paid into the State treasury for the support of the common schools only \$340,533; they drew back as their share of the school money \$988,



HOW NEW YORK COMPARES WITH THE OTHER GREAT CITIES OF THE WORLD.

The inner black boundary shows the territory embraced in the Greater New York. The outer black boundary includes enough additional territory in New Jersey and in Westchester County to take up an area equal to that of London. The area within the inner boundary is the nucleus of the metropolis. The lighter squares show at a glance the comparative area of the great cities of the world. The centre of population of which New York is the nucleus is so little smaller than London that with the more rapid growth going on here New York will within ten years be really, although not nominally, the largest city in the world—that is, there will be more people within the outer boundaries shown on this map than there are in London.

692. The same counties paid a State tax for general purposes of \$322,623, which, if added to their school tax, shows an aggregate tax of only \$603,182, or \$275.51 less than they received in the apportionment of school money.

Then, again, the country representatives, by special legislation, succeeded in obtaining a further sum from the State Treasury in the shape of appropriation bills amounting in the aggregate to \$551,002. This sum, added to the school money, made a grand total of \$1,400,354, which was taken out of the treasury for the benefit of these counties, while they only paid in \$603,182, leaving a net profit of \$837,172. It may be justly argued that the entire property of the State should have a tax levied sufficient to educate the children of the State. The unequal distribution of wealth within the State necessarily forces counties which contain valuable real property and great accumulation of money and other personal property to pay more than poor counties, although the latter may be rich in the number of their children.

The system devised when the Common School law was enacted, and which is now in vogue, is that to levy a tax upon all the property within the State subject to taxation, and then to apportion out the money collected to each county, basing the division on a census of children of a school age.

As an illustration, if a tax were levied on the four odd billions of dollars which makes up the assessed valuation of the property of the State of New York at a rate that would bring a revenue of \$3,500,000 to the School Fund, and there were 1,000,000 school children, each child would be credited with \$3.50, and no matter what the assessed valuation of a county was, the sum of \$3.50 would be multiplied by the number of children living in each county.

For instance, Hamilton County, the most sparsely settled of the sixty counties of the State, although it is one of the largest in area, paid into the State Treasury last year as its quota of the tax raised for the Common School Fund only \$1,174, and drew back in the apportionment of the fund \$4,957. The county also paid a State tax for general purposes of \$1,109. If we add together the tax paid by Hamilton for school and general purposes, it will be found that it aggregates but \$2,283, which is \$2,677 less than was sent to its school officers by the State Superintendent of Education for

the support of its schools. In other words, this Adirondack county only paid to the State about 23 per cent of the amount it received back to educate its children. It actually receives a present from the State of a sum greater than the amount it paid, besides exempting it from contributing toward the support of the State Government. While a comparison of other counties in the amounts paid into the treasury of the State and the amounts drawn back are not so glaring as that of Hamilton County, yet, based on a ratio of values, the other counties are equally as bad.

The following table gives a better idea why the man from Chemung is opposed to consolidation:

STRIKING FIGURES.

Counties.	Tax paid in.	Drawn out of Treas. for schools and special appropriations.
Albany.....	\$29,070	\$49,438
Cattaraugus.....	31,372	54,450
Chautauque.....	52,277	68,065
Chemung.....	28,194	30,978
Clinton.....	12,469	98,567
Columbia.....	18,071	38,543
Delaware.....	28,882	62,874
Essex.....	16,513	29,040
Franklin.....	16,050	80,334
Fulton.....	20,327	27,422
Jefferson.....	50,195	88,061
Hamilton.....	2,280	4,957
Lawrence.....	13,985	31,970
Madison.....	35,973	70,885
Ontario.....	44,133	157,688
Oriskany.....	38,812	122,973
St. Lawrence.....	51,610	110,573
Saratoga.....	43,199	80,015
Schuyler.....	12,576	40,470
Schoharie.....	49,372	91,451
Steuben.....	21,339	32,170
Tioga.....	12,725	55,098
Warren.....	35,248	66,234
Totals.....	\$603,182	\$1,400,354

Contrast these figures with those for New York and Queens counties:

	Tax paid in.	Money paid back.
New York.....	\$6,384,000	\$696,080
Queens.....	231,528	78,101

NEW YORK'S REAL SIZE.
An Area Hereabouts Equal to London's
Gives a Population Only
200,000 Less.

New York proper is much larger than the City of London proper. The latter is only a speck of a place in the heart of London County, containing not more than 40,000 people. Its area is but 122 square miles or 78,000 acres. It extends on both sides of the Thames from Woolwich to Hammer-smith, and across the river from Hampstead to Norway.

The County of London, however, extends in a radius of fifteen miles from Charing Cross. It is within this territory that London is able to figure up 4,211,000 people, making it the largest city in the universe.

Authorities declare that the people living within this fifteen mile circle are really Londoners, that they are alike in every respect to the inhabitants of the trifling spot designated as the City of London.

There are no authorities to quote upon the matter, but it is a fact known to everyone, that people, living in cities and towns in New Jersey within a fifteen mile circle from the City Hall, are just as much New Yorkers as those living on the narrow strip of land between the East and North Rivers. A Jersey City man is as much of a Gothamite as one living in Brooklyn, and the man who has his home in Paterson has as much in common with the metropolis as he who sleeps in Jamaica. And so the comparison might be carried on.

As before stated, there are at present living in 690 square miles of land in and around New York over 4,000,000 people. In this area is included all of Greater New York, of course, part of Westchester County, all of Hudson County, New Jersey, and portions of Bergen, Essex, Passaic and Union counties, of the same State. This territory includes the cities of Jersey City,

Newark, Paterson, Passaic, Elizabeth, Hoboken, Yonkers, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and a number of smaller places. Nearly all of them, the notable exceptions being Yonkers, Paterson, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle, are within a fifteen-mile circle from the City Hall, and all are within eighteen miles.

The cities and towns with their populations, which may be said to be properly within the metropolitan district are shown by the following table:

Greater New York.....	2,985,422
Westchester County, including Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle.....	125,000
NEW JERSEY.	
All of Hudson County, including Jersey City.....	\$28,000
ESSEX COUNTY.	
Newark.....	215,806
The Oranges.....	85,385
Bloomfield.....	8,093
Montclair.....	10,000
Belleville.....	4,568
Franklin.....	3,076
Total.....	276,928
PASSAIC COUNTY.	
Paterson.....	97,344
Passaic.....	17,894
Aquackanonck.....	3,508
Little Falls.....	2,410
Total.....	121,246
BERGEN COUNTY.	
Bergen.....	2,900
Palisades.....	3,243
Boiling Springs.....	1,488
Midland.....	1,192
Saddle River.....	3,062
Harrington.....	3,250
New Barbadoes, including Hackensack.....	7,282
Englewood.....	5,438
Ridgewood.....	6,618
Lodi.....	2,883
Total.....	38,291
UNION COUNTY.	
Elizabeth.....	43,834
Union.....	3,412
Roselle.....	2,428
Total.....	49,674
Grand total.....	3,024,561

The figures relating to New Jersey are obtained from the State census of 1895, while those of New York are from the State census of 1892. A very conservative estimate of the increase of population within the boundaries of Greater New York since the last census would bring the total number of people now living within the terri-

tory up to 3,100,000, making the total population of the 690 square miles 4,039,422.

And so it will be seen that while London is, and probably will be for some time to come, the largest city on earth, New York could, if allowed to reach out as its English rival does, gather in almost as many persons as are included within the British metropolis.

London increases in population only at the rate of about 50,000 per annum, while it is calculated that New York grows about three times faster.

Figuring on this basis, there will be living in the 690 square miles just described fifty years hence over 11,000,000 of people. There is plenty of room for them. If we get pushed for space the Jersey swamps always stand ready to be reclaimed. Let us hope that in the time to come the Jersey boundary will be moved back of the Orange Mountains and that we will have a great metropolitan district just like "Lunnon."

PRAISE OF THEOSOPHIST JUDGE

A Lecturer Says He May Have Signed an Immortal Instrument.

Claude Falls Wright's address before the Theosophical Society, in Chickering Hall yesterday morning, was upon the career and purpose of the late W. Q. Judge. The lecturer said that the growth of the Theosophical Society and its success are due altogether to Mr. Judge's wonderful work as an organizer.

Mr. Judge, said he, "was for three years in almost daily communication with Mme. Blavatsky, and personally knew of the wonders accomplished by her. He was slandered and criticised for believing in her, but he could not help believing what he saw. He was made intimately acquainted with the mysteries of ancient religious beliefs, and when he declared that he could hold communion with higher beings, it brought forth a storm of abuse and he was called a fraud. Those who denounced him admitted, however, that they knew nothing about it. Mr. Judge succeeded in establishing a society of free religious thought. He was a believer in reincarnation and claimed he was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. This was scoffed at, but who can say that he was not?"

The long Winter days are nearly over. A succession of Colds, Coughs or Pneumonia has weakened the system and strength doesn't seem to come back again. You remain pale and weak. You have a slight cough in the morning and perhaps a little fever in the afternoon. You need A Food as a Spring medicine, not a mere tonic. Such a food is Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites which will heal inflamed membranes, make good blood and supply food for sound flesh.

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